ICDS programme in Maharashtra

2770. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the funds provided under ICDS programme to overcome malnutrition problem of children in Maharashtra during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the percentage of malnourished children is not coming down for the last three years; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to bring down the percentage of malnourished children in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) The details of funds released to the Government of Maharashtra for supplementary nutrition under Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme during the last three years and upto 30.11.2009 is as follows:

(Rs. In Lakh)

Sl.No.	Year	Release
1.	2006-07	8443.33
2.	2007-08	16770.11
3.	2008-09	20646.17
4.	2009-10 (upto 30.11.09)	20350.12

(b) No national health survey has Been undertaken during the last three years. However, the prevalence of under nutrition in children (below 5 years) in Maharashtra as per National Family Health Survey (KFHS - 3) of 2005-06 is 37%.

(c) The Government has recently revised the norms in the ICDS Scheme wherein the nutritional feeding and financial norms have also been upwardly revised. The revised norms are as follows:

Category	Revised Rates (Per beneficiary per day)	Revised Nutritional Norms	
		Calories (K Cal)	Protein (gm)
(i) Children (6 months to 72 months)	Rs. 4.00	500	12-15
(ii) Severely malnourished children (6 months- 72 months)	Rs. 6.00	800	20-25
(iii) Pregnant women and Nursing mothers	Rs. 5.00	600	18-20

Also under 3rd phase expansion Government of India has sanctioned 102 new projects, 12608 new Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and 3640 Mini-Anganwadis to universalise the coverage of AWCs in the State.

However, malnutrition is a complex problem, the determinants of which include food insecurity, female illiteracy, poor access to health services, safe drinking water, sanitation and poor purchasing power. Early marriages of girls, teenage pregnancies resulting in low birth weight of the new borns, poor breastfeeding and poor complementary feeding practices, Ignorance about nutritional needs of infants and young children and repeated infections also affect malnutrition.

Besides the ICDS programme, Government is implementing a number of schemes throughout the country, which directly or indirectly improve the nutritional status of women and children. A list of the schemes being implemented by various Ministries is given in the statement.

Statement

Schemes/programmes to tackle the problem of malnourishment

1. Reproductive & Child Health Programme under the National Rural Health Mission being implemented by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has interventions for proper growth, development and survival of children which include:

- Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) to promote institutional deliveries, improved coverage and quality of Antenatal care, skilled care to pregnant women, etc.
- Immunization
- Integrated Management of Neonatal and Child Hood Illness
- Specific Programmes to prevent and combat micronutrient deficiencies of Vitamin A and Iron & Folic Acid through Vitamin A Supplementation for children till the age of 5 years and Iron & Folic acid Supplementation for infants, preschool children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women. Iodised salt is being provided for combating Iodine Deficiency Disorders
- Treatment of severe acute malnutrition through Nutrition Rehabilitation Centres (NRCs) set up at public health facilities

2. Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls in 51 districts to provide free food grains to undernourished adolescent girls and Kishori Shakti Yojana by Ministry of Women and Child Development.

3. National Programme for Nutritional Support to Primary Education (Mid Day Meal Scheme) by the Department of School Education & Literacy.

4. Nutrition and Health Education to increase the awareness and bring about desired changes in the dietary practices including the promotion of breast feeding and dietary diversification. Food

and Nutrition Board of the Ministry of Women & Child Development is engaged in advocacy, trainings and generating awareness on important nutrition issues among different level of functionaries and the masses.

Increased emphasis on Promotion of appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices which are as follows:-

- Initiation of breastfeeding immediately after birth, preferably within one hour.
- Exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months
- Complementary feeding and continued breast feeding from six months onwards
- The National Guidelines on Infant and Young Child Feeding have been developed and disseminated all over the country.
- Implementation of The Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply and Distribution) Act 1992, also known as the Infant Milk Substitute (IMS) Act

5. Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Targeted Public Distribution System, Antodaya Anna Yojna by the Department of Food & Consumer Affairs

6. Other measures include :

- Improving agricultural and horticulture produce
- Improving the purchasing power of the people though various income generating scheme

National mission for gender conversion and equity

†2771. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether work on formation of National Mission for Gender Conversion and Equity which is aimed at the empowerment of women involved in the 100 days agenda of Government has been completed;

(b) if so, the details of the work done by the Mission for empowerment of women; and

(c) if not, by when the Mission would be formed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH): (a) to (c) The actual contours of the proposed National Mission for Empowerment of Women are being worked out and will be finalised after inter ministerial consultations are complete.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.